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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY

Jordan

DATE DISTR. 8 December 1952

SUBJECT

Efforts of Prime Minister to Obtain ex-Mufti Support

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Prior to 30 October 1952

NO. OF ENCLS.

PLACE **ACQUIRED**

Jordan, 'Amman

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE

Competent American observer from a well-placed informant who has good connections among Nablus communist leaders.

Indications that Prime Minister Tawfiq Abu-al-Huda is attempting to win support from the ex-Mufti and the Arab Higher Executive (AHE)1,2,3 may be found in a review of political banishments which recently have been rescinded by the Government. The following persons have been permitted to return to Jordan in recent months:

Fathi Nabulsi Faysal Mabulsi4 Jamal Tamimi Musa Asravi

- 1. Field Comment. According to a Jordanian with close contacts in the Palace, the opposition element, consisting of Samir Rifa'i (see 80's-92218, -99103") supporters, and ex-supporters of the Prime Minister, expressed great concern over the inclusion of Khulusi al-Khayri, Musa Rasr, Amer Rusaybih, and 'All Basna in the new cabinet which was formed on 30 September 1952. According to informant, this selection reflects the desperate position of Abu-al-Huda in turning toward ex-Mufti elements now that he has lost the confidence of many of his own former adherents.
- 2. Washington Comment. Nusaybih was reliably reported in April 1950 as a member of the Palestine Arab Party (PAP) and as a follower of the Mufti.
- 3. Field Comment Al-Khayri, Masr, Musaybih and Hasna formerly have been closely associated with the ex-Mufti.
- 4. Washington Comment. Nabulsi was reliably reported on 17 July 1950 to be a staunch supporter of the Grand Mufti.

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